

Manfred Has Come Full Circle

Manfred

The Circle Began - As A New Village



A prosperous Manfred was established through great determination

Thoughts shared by Pam Norstedt, Curator of the Manfred Heritage Museum

It seems like it has come full circle, in talking about the village of Manfred.

The settlers came and prospered in this place. Manfred grew, and people cared about the town and what went on there. They were proud to say they were from Manfred. It thrived and business was booming. The settlers had created a safe living place for themselves and their loved ones.

Then, like a lot of the towns, Manfred lost people. Though a number of people left, Manfred was still there for some and remained in the minds of those who grew up there.

The buildings remaining today are reminders to us of what was sacrificed to create a life, when the future was yet unknown to the settlers. They did not know what lay ahead of them, but tried to make life **its** best with what they had. Manfred is a reminder of what people can do when faced with uncertainty, and when working together with a common goal in what they can accomplish.

The Circle Continues - As A Historic Village



Historic Manfred in being restored through great determination
Aerial photo of Manfred taken September 23, 2011 by Bill Ongstad

The spirit that brought the settlers to Manfred, when they created a new life in a spirit of adventure and hope, has not been forgotten.

That spirit was waiting in Manfred to come alive once again, and has now come full circle. MHP, Inc. has been leading the way in restoring buildings and compiling history in remembrance of the ones who came before us and in honor of the memory of their spirit of hope and life.

The settlers came to America to better their lives. Today, we remember and celebrate the settlers' heritage right in a place where they lived this heritage.

Manfred History and Preservation, Inc.

A Remarkable Historic Organization Making a Difference

From its start in **2000**, Manfred History and Preservation, Inc. (MHP, Inc.) has been on an urgent mission “to compile and share the history of Manfred, North Dakota and its traditional trade area and to encourage community pride and restoration of its historic structures.” The inspiring work of MHP, Inc. has earned for it a highly esteemed reputation throughout the state.

In **2002**, MHP, Inc. was named by Preservation North Dakota as –

“Preservation Success Story for 2002”

Through the years, MHP, Inc. has been invited to present its inspiring story at several conferences. Topics **participated in included**: 2002-How can ‘Historic Preservation’ breathe life back into a small community?; 2005-ABC’s of getting your preservation project off to a good start; 2008-Doing the Impossible; and 2011-Update on the Manfred projects and the upcoming Manfred School project.

In July of **2003** just three years after its start, MHP, Inc. dedicated the **extraordinary** -

Manfred Heritage Museum

- as an educational entity with the “purpose to provide present and future generations the opportunity to learn about the important contributions rural places such as Manfred have given to North Dakota and to America.” Visitors have been so delighted with this charming “authentic settlers’ village celebrating rural America.”

In **2011**, MHP, Inc. and the village of Manfred were honored by Preservation North Dakota in receiving the prestigious -

“Preservation Excellence Award”

The requirements of this award include:

Recipient of the Preservation Excellence Award must have demonstrated excellence in the preservation of a historically significant building, structure, resource, or site; and have contributed in a tangible and exemplary manner to furthering preservation in North Dakota. The achievement honored should serve as a model of excellence for others in North Dakota to emulate.

MHP, Inc. - The Excellence Continues

Through its Wonderful Contributors and Volunteers